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np 17

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Col. Pasley, Royal Engineer, on Geometry and Plan Drawing; being the first volume of a course of Military instructions.

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THE DYING BOY.

The following lines were written after reading an account of the death of a young mosher and three children, from the Inhuman neglect of the hashand and father. The wife we staken suddenly fil, and left alone with her little ones, while the hu band went to procure a physician and other needful assistance, the nearest house being over two miles distant; but he forgot every thing save his own deprayed appetite, became intoxicated before accomplishing his errard, remained so for a week, and on his return found them all dead. It is supposed that the mather died soon after the birth of her child, and that the child struggled longest—that in trying to that the child struggled longest—that in trying to soothe his expiring sister, he sunk down from weak-ness beside her, and could not at least release himself

Oh! mother dear, my lips are dry,
And Bessy's hands are cold;—
Mother, dear mother! help me nigh
Your bosom—surely you can hold
Your little boy. I will not cry.
Nor ask again for drink or bread,
If you will only the reach If you will only let me lie Upon your breast and hold my head.

Oh, mother! call your little boy
To your bedside—he'll try to crawl;
You said I was your only joy,
Your darling Henry and your all:
And then, you looked and acreamed out so—
"Boy! to your crael tather go,
Why do you weep and wall to me?
Fiy! fly! I've nothing here for thee!"

Don't stare so on me, mother dear, And she's too cold to lie so near-O, why don's father come to her?
or Bessy cried herself to sleep; I wish I could-but when I try My lids won't shut-and always keep

Mother! how can you lie so still With the dead b by in your arms?
Who did the little dear one kill?
You said 'twas now safe from all harms;— Can'i I be dead too, mother, say:
I'm sure 'lis very tonesome here—
Is heaven a very great long way? And is our father waiting there?

I'm tired now, and cannot go, And the bright un does blind me so:-Oh, shut your eyes, dear mother do! And let me love to go ze on you. And let me love to grze on you.

How can you see us lying taus,

(n this feed flort—our feet so cold?

Once you would fondly ran to us,

And round us both the blankets fold.

I'm fel ing-oh! the room turns roundle nn i see you now; -bit hark! I hear a soit and pleasant sound; Perhaps it is the little lark. I love such sounds as these to hear, And it is dark no longer now; Dear little girls, with wings, are near, And they are smiling on me too.

Oh, 'sis their songs so sweet and clear-I think I hear them sortly say,
Dear children stay no longer here;
Come, come with us, we'll lead the way-It must be heaven where they dwell: I come !- I come !- Mother, farewell!"

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE TARTAR'S TALE. BY MISS PAR DOE.

In the famous city Schamachie, the capital of the province of Schirwan in Persia. lived a merchant named Ali, who, from his immense wealth, was considered the second Karoon. He traded with the Franks in raw and wrought silks, and the wove cottons of the west; with the Muscovite dealers in furs, leather and metals; with the Tartars in horses; and with the Jews-may their fathers' graves be defiled !-in gold and silver, seemed to live only to prove the fallacy of affright. the proverb, which says that for every pearl ocean. Certain it is that, as often as he den. dipped his right hand into the bowl of for-

tune, he drew up the gem from the depth. Moreover, the merchant had a son-s youth of pride and promise, and of a disposition so gentle, that it seemed as though he had been nursed by the Peris, and fed with the honey dew that the early bee rifles from the rose. Even as the azure veil of the firamid the sunbeams, so did his modesty con-

perfections of his nature. Mohammed, for that was his name, was environs of the city, musing over the ruined of violence, when the slowly sinking sun, pillowing its golden brow on its cushion of

As he passed slowly along one of the narrowest and least frequented streets of the city, his ear was suddenly outraged by the voice of anguish; and advancing anxiously in the quarter whence it came, he saw an old man of stern aspect, who, with ferocious tear a young and beautiful female, whose veir had escaped in the struggle, from the arms of her aged parents, while she rent the vault of heaven with her cries and supplications.

Mohammed sprang forward like the light footed deer before the tread of the hunter, and at once inquired the cause of this iron-hear ed violence; as the maiden turned aside her graceful head with a blush which threw a new sunlight over her beauty. The story was soon told. The father of the young houri was the debtor of the hoary sinner who stood by enforcing this deed of darkness; and his child was about to be torn from him, and sold into slavery, in default of other payment.

The voice of sorrow was turned into that of joy, and the hap y father laid the forehead thanksgiving in the dust of gratitude, as Mohammed, out of the abundance of his generosity, paid down the required sum, and freed the beautiful Zohara from the grasp of her captor. But, alas! the son of Hali had but transferred the chain of slavery to his own heart; and when, in obedience to the old man's prayer, he passed the threshold of the father of Zohara, and saw her mother weeping at his knees, while the maiden herself stood by in her young loveliness partially shrouding her face in the folds of her robe. he felt that the sun of his earthly sky would

hereafter be the eyes of the fair creature whom he had rescued. It was true that at the present the mists of sorrow obscured the sunbeams of beauty, but Zohara was like the water-lily, which is ever the loveliest in its tears; as the young man quitted the roof to which he had now restored the happiness.

he felt that an arrow was in his heart which

he sought not to pluck out.

WHOLE NO. 244.

Mohammed had studied like a moullah in the colleges for which Schamachie has so long been famous, and the boasted science of the Franks were no more than atoms in the beams of his knowledge; but from this time forth he sheathed the bright spear of study in the breast of indolence, and wandered during whole days beside the streams of the valley or beneath the shadows of the forest boughs weaving sweet fancies of which the bright

Zohara was ever the brilliant subject. Such a passion as this could end only in marriage; and it was long ere Mohammed. the son of the wealthy Ali, asked for his bride the daughter of the pennyless Tismah, whose worldly possessions would not have loaded the weakest camel in the city. It is not difficult to imagine how he was answered; and while the mother of the young man was prepared to receive the wife of her son, he passed whole hours beside her, gazing on her fresh cheek, where nature had crushed its roses to paint the fairest skin that ever flushed at praise; and into her deep eyes, where the light seemed to slumber save when his smile called torth living fire. Graceful was she at the s fsaf, and fawnlike as the light-footed maidens of Singol; while her voice was low and sweet as the night-wind among the tombs of the early

Rechid Aga was the friend of Mohammed; they clung together like double pomegranites; and, in the exuberance of his joy, the unwary young man poured into the ear of his chosen associate, the tale of his approaching happiness. Richid listened, and wild wish grew in his soul, and poisoned it like the breath of the upas. The painted wings of vanity were folded about his heart, and us he curled his dark and glossy beard over his fingers, began to ask himself wherefore the felech of Mohammed had shed a light upon his path which had been denied If the maiden was so fair as the eyes of his friend had made her, she must be a banished pearl, condemned to visit earth for a time, and to be won by a mortal-why then should he not be that favored one? And as Eblis thus prompted him, vague thoughts and hopes grew into shape and tangibility within his bosom; and he resolved to learn all that the trusting friendship of Mohammed might lead him to reveal; seizing, therefore, with the hand of sport, the skirts of confidence. he smilingly asked a thousand questions, to which his friend replied with unsuspicious frankness; and thus the poverty of Transah, and the obscurity of his position became known to him, as well as the beauty of Zo-

hara, and the story of her rescue.

Rechid Aga left the presence of his friend with treachery in his heart. His fancy had been taken captive by the glowing picture of her peerless beauty so soon to be a bride and he resolve! that should she be but half so lovely as she had been painted to him she should be his, if craft or violence could win her.

As the steel hearted leopard springs on the trembling chamois, so rushed the treacherous brocades and weapons, woollen goods and Aga on his prey! The house of the slumtapestry: In short, there was no caravan bering Timsah was fired at midnight; and passed in and out of the city, in which the the shrieking Zohara borne through the flames merchant Ali had not a large venture; and so only to be placed on a swift horse, encircled favored was he by the Prophet, that he by the arm of its rider, and panting with

As day dawned, the horseman reined up of price that sees the sun, the diver must de- his rapid steed, and springing to the earth, scend a score of times to the bottom of the drew after him his pale and shrinking bur-

It was a glorious morning, and their halt was in a valley where happy hearts, blessed in each other, might have been content to dwell forever. Much time was spent in restoring the maid to consciousness, for her swoon was long and heavy; and as Rechid Aga hung over her, and bathed her pale brow with the pure water of a mountain stream. mament hides the ten thousand hours who live and crushed in her small hands the aromatic blossoms of the henna plant, he felt the words ceal from all, save a chosen few, the divine of Mohammed had been weak in painting her beauty. He had faid her down beneath the tall boughs of a maple tree, at whose one day walking in the pleasant and fertile roots the fresh moss grew rankly, clustered with blue violets; and when the fair Zohara wall of the southern quarter which was so at length opened her eyes, and beheld beside demolished by Shah Anbas, and sighing in her the friend of her affianced hu-band, she the gentleness of his spirit at the cruel effects clasped her hands in a transport of joy and gratitude; for she guessed not that he had stained the skirts of his honor with the decrimson and purple, warned him to return to filements of treachery, but at once believed the house of his father in time for the even- that he had preserved her from the flames in

friendship for Mohammed. As the Aga caught her meaning, he eagerly encouraged the delusion; and spreading before her some dried fruits, with which he had come provided, he urged her to partake of them ere they pursued their way back to the city. The gentle Zohara, grateful for his gestures, was urging on the wall's guard to care, smilingly obeyed; and as her falsehearted companion hastened to the stream to procure for her a draught of its refreshing waters, she looked eagerly and admiringly about her, on the fair scene amid which she was seated. The clouds, those graceful cup-bearers of

the sky, were riding like snow flakes upon the clear blue bosom of space; on every side bloomed clusters of bright and many tinted flowers, worthy to be the envy of the constellations; the sun, a heaven inspired painter ! had sketched a thousand beautiful designs on their leafy tablets; and sweeter than the musk of Tartary was the perfume which accompanied his touch. The forest boughs dropped honey, for the haunt of the wild bee was among their leaves; and the ruby cups of the bursting buds were each sealed with a diamond drop of dew. The distant mountain bathed their brows in light; and the lesser heights were clothed in draperies of many colored vegetation, the tall trees which overhung the stream looked like stately beauties mitroring their gracefulness in the clear waters, while the more flexible safsaf, the weeping willow, and the feathery birch, bent low into the wave, as though faint with enjoyment .-The slender-hoofed hind at intervals bounder past, light as the wind that waved the branches; and the bulbul nestled amid the leaves above

her head, and not yet weary of her melodious grief, was pouring out a song to which the peris might have loved to listen.

As Zohara contemplated this fairy scene, her soul was steeped in the honey of delight; the thorns of care, and the gnawing caustic of sorrow, were alike shut out; and when the Aga held the cup to her lips, sparkling with the cold rock water, she thanked him with a smile, which spread the glossy feathers of hope over the black heart of fulsehood.

But ere long the serpent tongue of guilt betrayed its worthless purpose, and the af-frighted maiden learnt the unboly passion which had caused her to be thus borne away from the roof of her father, with a terror which denied her utterance. The vows breathed by her perfidious sustor, did but rouse hatred in her bosom; and as she became more calm, she wedded the name of Rechid Aga to every reproachful epithet with which her memory supplied her. She reminded him of the heavy chain of gratitude that had been flung around her by the generous aid of Mohammed, ere she had learnt to love him; and she vowed by the soul of the prophet, and by the grave of her father, that she would rather die by her own hand, than be the wife of another. The protestations of the Aga fell on her like water upon sand, and left no impression; while the young man gnashed the sharp teeth of disappointment against the shivered weapon of defeat, as, with her small dagger in her hand, drawn from amidst the folds of her girdle, she threatened to sheathe the steel of death in her heart, if he did not leave her on the instant.

The Aga orged and expostulated in vain.

He represented the impossibility of her return to the city, alone and unprotected; but the maiden spurned alike his threats and his entreaties; and she had raised her hand to strike, preferring death to further communion with her treacherous companion, when the tramp of horses was beard in the distance : and be fore Rechi Aga could warn her of the probable danger, a wild shriek from Zohara summoned to their side a party of predatory

The maiden had scarcely time to cover her face with her robe, when the foremost of the train checked his steed under the shadow of the tree beneath which she was sitting; while in the next instant, the 'ga who had drawn his scimitar on the first alarm, was wounded, overpowered, and bound to one of its branches.

So unlooked for capture, almost in the vicinity of the city, was hailed with delight by the Arabs, whose chief immediately claimed the maiden as his spoil; and having looked. upon her beauty, talked exultingly of the number of purses which would freely be paid down for so fair a purchase; while others appropriated the horse and weapons of the Aga, the whole of which, at their practised glance at once detected, were of great value. Having satisfied themselves on this point, half a dozen of the most distinguished of the party seated themselves on the grass, and prepared to partake of the fruits which were still spread before the maiden; while the rest formed into separate groups on the margin of the stream, drew from their travelling bags their less delicate contents, and commenced a hurried

Zohara, meanwhile, looked on tremblingly, and vague prospects of escape rolled across her mind; but like wreaths of vapor they left nothing tangible behind; and as she turned aside from her captors, and her eye fell on the droopi g an a wounded Aga, the origin of all her sufferings, her heart froze within her, and her pulses stood stril, as though Azrael had passed his finger upon her brow. Coiled among the branches above her head.

she beheld an enormous scrpent, slowly moving towards the bough, to which the unhappy young man had been secured. The sunlight fell flickering through the leaves, and touching at intervals the bright scales with which he was covered, turned them into jewels; his deep green eyes looked like emeralds, and his forked tongue protruded its poisoned lauce from the blood stained cavern of its yawning tws. On, on he moved, and Zohara could ot stir a limb, nor utter a cry for help-on, on, until his head rested on the shoulder of the vounded man, and his coiled around his body. Here for a while it remained, as though contemplating the scene beneath; and then gliding away into the thick foliage as noiselessly as he had stolen forth, he disappeared among the leaves.

Again Zohara breathed freely; and she would have warned her captors of the vicinity of their dangerous enemy, and besought of them to rescue the insensible Aga from so horrible a death, but at this moment, the Arabs, having drunk too deeply from their wine-skins, began to wrangle among themselves, and never ceased their dispute until the slumber of inebriety stole upon them, when they, one by one, laid their heads upon the earth and slept.

Now indeed the maiden began to let the wings of hope flutter about her heart, but she yet felt the necessity of caution, for although the groups by the river back followed the examples of their chiefs, and flung themselves into the attitude of repose, she knew that theirs would be the lighter slumbers of fatigue. which an unguarded movement night serve to dissipate. While therefore she was turning in her mind the most feasible means of success, her thoughts divided between her terror of the serpent, and her hope of escape from her enemies, the mighty snake once more appeared above her head, and as her eye again rested upon it, she crouched down with clasping hands and clenched teeth, without power to withdraw herself from danger.

The serpent, however, glided down the tree, and passed her by unheeded, attracted by the scent of the wine-skins, which yet lay beside the sleeping Arabs. Twice, thrice he raised his crested head above them, and then plunged it into the liquid, he drank deep, and flung back into the wine a few heavy black drops of the foul poison which hung about his jaws.

The noise of his retreat, as he again glided swiftly into the underwood, with a rattling sound, accompanied by a shrill hissing noise, aroused the Arabs, who started from the carth and clutched their weapons; but when, on looking round, they could not discover any cause of alarm, and saw one captive seated beneath the tree, and the other vet bound to its branches, they only muttered an imprecation; and seizing the skins of wine, passed them one to another, and resumed their

Now was the moment come when Zohara felt within her the courage which grows out of peril. She glided to the side of Aga, but he did not unclose his eyes; she touched his hand, it was cold and nerveless, and the maiden started with a new terror; she felt that

she looked on death. A sudden impulse shook her, and she drew forth her dagger. Were not they who were sleeping but a few paces off, her enemies ? a.d might she not deliver herself from their grasp? Those at her feet could not injure her further ,